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1645IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): William J. Boyle

Serial No.: 09/721,212

Group Art Unit No.: 1644

Filed: November 21, 2000

Examiner: Schwadron, Ronald B.

For: Osteoprotegerin Binding Proteins and Receptors

Docket No.: A-451K

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APR 29 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600,2900

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 22, 2002 in which Claims 1-42 were subject to a restriction requirement.

The Examiner has indicated that restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1, 2, 4-14 are drawn to nucleic acids, and host cells containing said nucleic acids, classified in class 435, subclasses 320.1, 240.2 and 252.3, and Class 536, subclass 23.5.
- II. Claim 15 is drawn to a process for producing a protein, classified in Class 435, subclass 69.1.
- III. Claims 3, 16-24, 32, 33, 37, 38 are drawn to a polypeptide and composition, classified in Class 530, subclass 350 and Class 514, subclass 2.
- IV. Claims 25, 26 are drawn to an antibody, classified in class 530, subclass 387.1.
- V. Claim 27 is drawn to a method of detection using an antibody, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- VI. Claims 28-30 are drawn to a method of detection using an OPG binding protein, classified in Class 436, subclass 501.

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VIII. Claims 34 and 35 are drawn to a method of treatment with soluble OPG binding protein, classified in Class 424, subclass 178.1.

IX. Claims 34 and 36 are drawn to a method of treatment with an antibody, classified in Class 424, subclass 143.1.

X. Claims 39-41 are drawn to a method of preventing bone disease with soluble ODAR, classified in Class 514, subclass 8.

XI. Claim 42 is drawn to an in vitro assay using ODAR, classified in Class 435, subclass 7.2.

Applicant provisionally elects the invention corresponding to Group XI, Claim 42. It is acknowledged that the remaining claims will be withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner as being directed to a non-elected invention.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 01-0519.

Respectfully submitted,



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